

[H.R. 1567, Global Food Security Act of 2015, as amended](#)

FLOOR SITUATION

On Tuesday, April 12, 2016, the House will consider [H.R. 1567](#), the Global Food Security Act of 2015, as amended, under suspension of the rules. H.R. 1567 was introduced on March 24, 2015 by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), and was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, which ordered the bill reported, as amended, by unanimous consent on April 23, 2015.

SUMMARY

H.R. 1567, as amended, provides policy guidance for and enhances the transparency of U.S. international food security and development programs, which are currently being implemented under the “Feed the Future” initiative. Specifically this legislation:

- Authorizes \$1.06 billion for Fiscal Year 2017 to carry out these programs, which is equal to FY15 and FY16 enacted levels;
- Affirms that it is in the national security interests of the U.S. to promote global food and nutrition security;
- Requires the development and implementation of a Global Food Security Strategy;
- Authorizes the Administration to prevent and address food shortages pursuant to authorities of the Foreign Assistance Act; and
- Ensures that neither the Global Food Security Act nor the Global Food Security Strategy will affect the implementation of specified provisions of law.

BACKGROUND

Nearly 800 million people suffer from chronic hunger, most of which is rooted in poverty. By 2050, the world’s population is expected to grow to more than 9 billion people, which would require at least a 60% increase in agricultural production for enough food products.¹

During the 2009 G-8 Summit in Italy, President Obama called on the global community to reverse a decades-long decline in agriculture and strengthen global efforts to reduce poverty, hunger, and undernutrition. The United States pledged \$3.5 billion to this effort over three years and was matched

¹ See <https://feedthefuture.gov/about>

by \$18.5 billion in support from G-8 members and other donors. The U.S. contribution came to be called “Feed the Future”, and the initial commitment of \$3.5 billion was met in 2012.²

Feed the Future (FTF) supports food security priorities of partnering countries and works to build capacity for sustainable development. By increasing agricultural productivity and generating opportunities for economic growth and trade, improving agricultural research and development, and boosting harvests and incomes of rural farmers, FTF attempts to provide families with the economic means to lift themselves out of poverty and pay for things like food, education, and health care.³

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that implementing H.R. 1567 would cost \$905 million over the 2016-2020 period, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts. The current appropriated level is \$1.0006 billion. Enacting this bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information please contact [Jake Vreeburg](#) with the House Republican Policy Committee by email or at 5-0190.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*